

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# **H. R. 517**

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## **AN ACT**

To direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard to  
convey 2 Coast Guard cutters.



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1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF DECOMMISSIONED COAST**  
2 **GUARD CUTTERS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant of the Coast  
4 Guard shall convey all right, title, and interest of the  
5 United States in and to a vessel described in subsection  
6 (b) to the person designated in subsection (b) with respect  
7 to the vessel (in this section referred to as the “recipi-  
8 ent”), without consideration, if the person complies with  
9 the conditions under subsection (c).

10 (b) VESSELS DESCRIBED.—The vessels referred to in  
11 subsection (a) are the following:

12 (1) The Coast Guard Cutter BRAMBLE, to be  
13 conveyed to the Port Huron Museum of Arts and  
14 History (a nonprofit corporation under the laws of  
15 the State of Michigan), located in Port Huron,  
16 Michigan.

17 (2) The Coast Guard Cutter PLANETREE, to  
18 be conveyed to Jewish Life (a nonprofit corporation  
19 under the laws of the State of California), located in  
20 Sherman Oaks, California.

21 (c) CONDITIONS.—As a condition of any conveyance  
22 of a vessel under subsection (a), the Commandant shall  
23 require the recipient to—

24 (1) agree—

25 (A) to use the vessel for purposes of edu-  
26 cation and historical display;

1 (B) not to use the vessel for commercial  
2 transportation purposes;

3 (C) to make the vessel available to the  
4 United States Government if needed for use by  
5 the Commandant in time of war or a national  
6 emergency; and

7 (D) to hold the Government harmless for  
8 any claims arising from exposure to hazardous  
9 materials, including asbestos and poly-  
10 chlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), after conveyance  
11 of the vessel, except for claims arising from use  
12 of the vessel by the Government under subpara-  
13 graph (C);

14 (2) have funds available that will be committed  
15 to operate and maintain the vessel conveyed in good  
16 working condition—

17 (A) in the form of cash, liquid assets, or  
18 a written loan commitment; and

19 (B) in an amount of at least \$700,000;  
20 and

21 (3) agree to any other conditions the Com-  
22 mandant considers appropriate.

23 (d) MAINTENANCE AND DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—  
24 Prior to conveyance of a vessel under this section, the  
25 Commandant shall, to the extent practical, and subject to

1 other Coast Guard mission requirements, make every ef-  
2 fort to maintain the integrity of the vessel and its equip-  
3 ment until the time of delivery. The Commandant shall  
4 deliver a vessel conveyed under this section at the place  
5 where the vessel is located, in its present condition, and  
6 without cost to the Government. The conveyance of a ves-  
7 sel under this section shall not be considered a distribution  
8 in commerce for purposes of section 6(e) of Public Law  
9 94-469 (15 U.S.C. 2605(e)).

10 (e) OTHER EXCESS EQUIPMENT.—The Commandant  
11 may convey to the recipient of a vessel under this section  
12 any excess equipment or parts from other decommissioned  
13 Coast Guard vessels for use to enhance the vessel’s oper-  
14 ability and function as an historical display.

Passed the House of Representatives May 13, 2003.

Attest:

*Clerk.*